Watching a Kiddo Search – reflection reaction

The first example that I read was the 3rd grade one. I was pretty impressed with the student's abilities to effectively narrow her search and find quality information. I really have very little frame of reference when it comes to that age of child. I have always taught high school students and my own children are not quite school-aged.

The one that I looked to for direct comparison to my own experiences was the 10th grade example. I was pretty impressed with the fact that the student verbalized that he wanted to stick to .edu and .gov sites due to credibility. In my experience with high school students, the masses flock to Wikipedia and sites on the first results page - to my knowledge, very few care or think about whether or not the source is credible. Thus, I wonder if the current librarians and teachers are discussing this type of information with students at all, or if they are just not paying attention.

I also appreciated the 5th grade example where the 3 students admitted that they could find all of their information in the textbook. I know that most students in my expernence want to take the path of least resistance. Meaning if they can cut and paste, or use the first site, or Wikipedia - they will. Therefore, this search task must have seemed irrelevant and not very interesting to the kids.